

Text for new Q&A Display ad:

Q: Why aren't you sampling the air and soil affected by the excavation for the new water lines in Troy?

A: The nature of the contamination of concern in Lincoln County (asbestos-containing vermiculite) allows for visual inspection to identify quantities we would expect to see buried with a water line. Unless we find vermiculite around the water line, we have no reason to suspect Libby Amphibole asbestos contamination. Knowing that asbestos can not be seen with the unaided eye, we look for the "carrier" of the asbestos, which is the vermiculite. The contractor for the water line has been trained - their supervisor attended the asbestos training in Libby last January and is a certified asbestos inspector. DEQ, EPA, CDM, Tetra-Tech, and Volpe have a protocol in place to react quickly to any indication of vermiculite. Not only our crews in Troy, but workers for CDM in Libby who happen to live in Troy inspect the water line excavation daily as we travel through town.

web & all papers - 5/07